S001.001

The Underground

UTSC's student newspaper since 1980

Wednesday, November 27, 2002

Volume 22, Issue 12

## Not So Positive Space

## Bowling For Columbine

## Ballet Creole

## UTSC Evacuated

**Haiku Contest**
details backpage!

# CREATING AN EVEN BETTER MEETING PLACE FOR GREAT MINDS

## UTSC Management Building

- A new building dedicated mostly to Management programs including co-op
- Atrium, specially designed case rooms, skills room, general classrooms, faculty and staff offices
- Opening August 2004

UTSC's new Management building will be open in 2004, providing the UTSC community with an additional 47,000 square feet of space.

The building will include several case rooms (tiered, horseshoe shaped classrooms that are especially suitable for instruction in management courses), a skills room, offices for faculty and staff, interview rooms and a resource room for management co-op students, study spaces and general-purpose classrooms – including a 120-seat lecture hall.

The official ground breaking will happen in 2003.

**To find out more about growth at UTSC . . .**

- **What is the construction schedule for the next few months?**
- **What are the other building projects at UTSC?**
- **Where can study space be found on campus?**

**For this information and more, visit:**
**http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/growth/**

The Underground

| | |
|---|---|
| **Editor-in-Chief** | Chris McKinnon |
| **Associate Editors** | Sachin Hingoo |
| **Production Manager** | Greg Brown |
| **Associate Production Manager** | James Relunia |
| **News Editors** | Gordon Lane<br>Dan Sharpe |
| **Arts Editor** | Keith Friedlander |
| **Life Editor** | Christian Lucier |
| **Graphics Editor** | Greg Brown |
| **On-Line Editor** | Mario Kangeswaren |
| **Advertising Manager** | Susie Lopes |
| **Accounting Manager** | Michelle Ng |
| **Accounting Assistants** | Juliana Lam<br>Millie Ng |

**Staff Writers:**
Meghan Hurley, Kelly Lisle, Merika Ramundo, Andrew C. Epstein, Lisa Endersby, Ayshia Degia, Sarah Barmak, Veronica Lo, Rob Chung

**Contributors:**
Matt Capper, Jeff Rybak

**Letters and Opinions Policy**

At **The Underground** we love unsolicited material, especially letters and opinion pieces. Should such material be typed or printed and delivered to **The Underground**'s snazzy portable by or before noon on the Friday prior to the desired publication date, we will more than likely print it. We kindly ask that submissions be of 800 words or less and that they include the writer's name and student number.

Submissions become the property of **The Underground** and may or may not be published at the whim of *The Editorial Board*. *The Board* reserves the right to poke fun at submissions, post them on the wall in **The Underground**'s snazzy portable (for the enjoyment of our staff and guests) or alter them in print in any way provided it is so acknowledged. By submission, authors implicitly bow down to the total editorial control of *The Editorial Board* and freely consent to the addition witty comments and criticisms (especially in the case of libelous or malicious submissions) courtesy of the snarky editors.

For a more official-sounding **Letters and Opinions Policy** contact ***undergnd@utsc.utoronto.ca***

**The Underground** is published by the Scarborough Campus Student Press, a non-profit corporation. It is funded by way of a direct levy to students of the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus, and through local and national advertising. **The Underground** is a member of **Canadian University Press (CUP)**.

# contents

## What is the value of your education?
*It might not be what you think...* p.6

## *Is UTSC Positive Space?* p.11

### Also in this Issue:
Editorial / Letters p.4
Comments p.5
Events Listings p.15
Opinions p.6

### The News in Brief... p.7

### Arts
*Ballet Creole performs at UTSC* p.9
*John Mayer performs at Kool Haus* p.9

### Reviews
*Die Another Day* p.10
*Bowling for Columbine* p.10

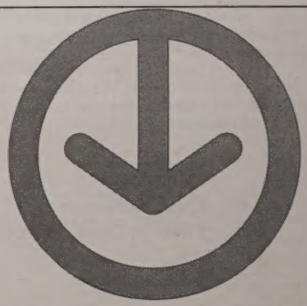
### Life
*What UTSC comunity?* p.12
*Video games imitate life* p.13
*The Necessity of Excess* p.13

### Columns
Frog in My Throat p.6
Satan's Bakesale p.14
Weekly Haiku p.5

**Contacting the Underground Staff**

For all inquiries, please use the contact information below. Advertising questions and information should be directed to Chris McKinnon.

Mail: The Underground, U of T Scarborough
1265 Military Trail, Room S-364 (in the portable)
Scarborough, ON
M1C 1A4
Phone: 416.287.7054
Fax: 416.287.7055
Email: undergnd@utsc.utoronto.ca
Web: http://www.scar.utoronto.ca/~undergnd/



# editorial

## This is not an editorial

**I've already written two articles for this issue and I'm tired and I don't want to write an editorial.**

**So here's some advice:**

Read Christian Lucier's article on the UTSC Community, or lack thereof. I think maybe he's missed the point of diversity here at Scarborough... I would like to know what you think.

Read Merika Ramundo's column (on the opposite page) and you'll learn how to say "I have to go pee!" in Italian.

Read Robert Chung's article about procrastination and alcohol. Then go get drunk.

Read Andrew C. Epstein's column about kiddie porn, and well... You might feel ill.

Read Jeff Rybak's opinion-piece (on the opposite page) and despair about the worth(lessness) of your education.

Read the News-In-Brief, because it's there!

Read my article about Positive Space, because (believe it or not) it affects you...

Read Sachin Hingoo's review of *Bowling for Columbine* and you'll find out the Charleton Heston is a big ol' racist.

Read the whole damn paper, 'cause it's mostly pretty good this week.

**And here are some answers to questions you didn't ask:**

Yes, I was mean to the Women's Centre. But I think they deserved it.

Yes, I printed the wrong picture of one of the arcade-theft suspects last week, and I'm sorry.

Yes, I did go to *GLOW*. No, I was not stoned. Yes, I did have too much to drink. No, I did not drive home.

Chris McKinnon
Editor in Chief

# correction

**Last week's issue of The Underground matched the description of Suspect #2 with the incorrect photograph. Our sincerest apologies to the man in the picture. We hope that our mistake did not cause serious confusion or problems.**

**At press-time, UTSC Police are still seeking two suspects for questioning. Please see the postings outside the Police Station at the main entrance for more information, and the correct photographs.**

**If you have information on this or other crimes, you can call Crimestoppers at 416-222-TIPS. You do not need to give your name.**

Hate our guts? Wish we were dead?

Send any opinions or letters to the editor to:

Editor-in-chief
The Underground, U of T Scarborough
1265 Military Trail, Room S364
Scarborough, ON
M1C 1A4

or email c_mckinn@hotmail.com with "Opinion" or "Letter to the Editor" in the subject line.

(By the way, we're total masochists; we'll print whatever you send us.)

*"I do not wish them [women] to have power over men; but over themselves."*
*- Mary Wollstonecraft*

# comments

## Mi Scappa La Pi Pi

*Frog In My Throat*

*Merika Ramundo*

Picture it. East-end Montreal, 1985. An eleven-year-old girl sits at her kitchen table doing homework while listening to Video Hits blaring from the television set. She hears keys rustling in a purse. The sound is coming from the front door. She smiles and does not answer. She waits and listens. The door-handle jiggles furiously. Bam. Whack. The door flings open and her eighteen-year-old sister makes a mad A-line dash for the bathroom. The girl runs after her older sister all the while making "pee" noises to kick-start the release of her sister's bladder before she can make it to the bowl. Ahhh, those were the days, dear readers, when a girl could really cause havoc for her older sister's bladder. Hell, when I was a kid there was even an Italian song about peeing (see afterword)!

As genes, luck or Murphy's Law would have it, there are now moments when I have to pee at the most inopportune time. It seems that I always have to pee when I'm looking for something or waiting for someone in a public place, of course. In my case, the sure-fire scenarios that almost always instigate my need to pee are:

While searching for a film in the video store.
While looking for that obscure cd in a music store.
While making my way through the stacks at the library.
While waiting at any bus stop or subway station.
While washing dishes.
Stepping outside to do laundry combined with a cold breeze.
While walking home, when I am literally thirty seconds away from the front door.

It's almost as if there is a ghost (let's call him Tinkle) who waits for these moments in order to test my physical spirit and ingenuity. Tinkle would be glad to know that there are some tactics that I've picked up throughout the years that have helped me to repress my bladder just long enough to make it to a bathroom. Here are my tips for surmounting obstacles in a game of urinary tug-of-war.

**Run for the closest washroom.** This is not 100% effective especially when you are walking down a street in a desperate search for a coffee shop that doesn't force you to buy something before handing over the key to liberation.

**Try to act casual.** Look for a seat and cross your legs. This manoeuver helps to keep everything in and calms the tide before the storm. This simple move can give you some extra time to plan out the next course of attack — what to do after you stand up.

**If there are no chairs where you are, squat to maintain floodwaters.** This move works particularly well at the video store or in the library because you can pretend to be looking for a book or video on the bottom shelf without being recognized as a person in dire need of urinary release.

**In desperate cases, sit on the floor or sidewalk until the feeling subsides.** I have had to do this once. Unfortunately the guy that I was dating was there at the time. It was not a pretty sight. Me, not amused, sitting on the corner of my street and he, laughing his ass off at my very unique version of a sit-in. From that moment on, I was called pee-satan.

Needless to say, my Strategic Planning course never taught me these life saving strategies. I had to learn them the hard way. Nevertheless, I have come to realize that it's all about timing. I used to be in a rush to do everything at once. I never made time in my day to think about whether I needed to visit the loo before going places. Now, I will take that extra five minutes to stop and smell the flower scented bathroom-deodorizer in order to avoid a lifetime of shame and cold, wet underwear.

Afterword: This Italian song entitled Mi Scappa La Pi Pi was taught to me by my grandparents. I believe it is part of the Italian folk repertoire. I know of no child of Italian descent that does not know this song.....it has reached cult-status.

Mi scappa la pip'i.
Mi scappa la pip'i.
Mi scappa la pip'i, pap'a. (X 4)
Non ce la faccio proprio pi'u, io la faccio qui.

*Translation:*
*I have to go pee pee,*
*I have to go pee pee,*
*I have to go pee pee, pappa (X 4).*
*I can't keep it in any more,*
*I'm going to pee right here!*

There will be a general meeting of the Scarborough Campus Students' Press on November 27th, at 8:00 p.m. in Rm S-364.

If you're interested in joining the SCSP as a board member, please plan to attend.

## Weekly Haiku

by Sachin Hingo

**Where is my OSAP?**
**I made a belt from paper**
**Have you seen my pants?**

opinion

# The Dollars and Sense of Education

Jeff Rybak

How is your education valuable, exactly? Few who are attending university or involved in providing the education would argue that it isn't valuable, but there are some competing ideas about where the value is to be found. And I think it's very important that everyone who is attending university should know, for damn sure, what kind of value they are looking to get out of what they are investing here.

In terms of dollars and cents our undergraduate degrees are worth less today than they ever have been at any time in the past. All kinds of government statistics establish that more and more people are attending university, in terms of population percentages. This is considered a healthy economic trend and is part of what establishes us as a premier nation in terms of quality of life. But it's also a very simple way of proving, in terms of supply and demand, that higher education isn't as salable as it once was in today's job markets. If 5% of the population have undergraduate degrees on their resumes it really means something. If 40% have them, it means a heck of a lot less. That's just common sense.

Many would argue the value of education is not to be found on a financial balance sheet and I would be inclined to agree. The CFS is of that opinion, which is one of the reasons they are campaigning for lower tuition fees and more government support. If education is healthy for our society, the government should be prepared to support it. That's the argument, anyway. And it's a very old argument between education as valuable unto itself and education as a marketable commodity.

There was a letter printed in the Nov. 6 issue of the Underground by Quentin Stossel. To quote him: "If tuition is lowered, the next agent of selection might likely be academic merit." His position, roughly restated, is the financial position of his family (and to be fair, his willingness to work) is what's allowed him to attend university over those who might have better academic ability. He is in favour of high tuition because they help keep university degrees in the hands of the "haves" and maintain the marketable edge of the degrees by keeping the selection of people who have them more exclusive. He knows why he's here. He's buying his way into the "haves."

I can't tell anyone why they are in university. It is something every student needs to decide individually. But it's something every student absolutely has to think about. This is the essential force at work in university today, and the source of so much conflict on so many different issues. On the one hand there is the philosophy that university is here to improve our young people and to make them better citizens and to make Canada a better country as a result. On the other hand there is the philosophy that university is here to provide marketable skills for the people attending it so that they will realize financial and social reward once they are done.

From the first perspective - that university is here to improve society - low tuition fees, government support, wide participation, and programs that don't necessarily suggest a marketable skill all make sense. From the second perspective - that university is a financial investment with a financial payoff - deregulation of tuition, privatization, education for those that can afford it, and an emphasis on "practical" education makes the most sense. And when one agenda is pressed it puts pressure on the entire balance. Who among us, interested in education for its own sake, hasn't thought a time or two that it's just too damn expensive to learn something that isn't practical?

In all of this it's important to remember that the university itself is not neutral. Students and government may fund that institution that we call "university" but it is driven by professional academics. And anyone who has ever earned a PhD and desired to become a career professor needs students to be able to do that. A few noble intentions aside, the academics who run a university are not primarily interested in providing socially productive programs of study or providing marketable degrees. They are primarily interested in putting students in the classrooms and couldn't care less what happens to those students once they are done with their degree programs. Anything that contributes to that is fine. The push from within university will always be to become bigger, on whatever basis is most convenient.

There is a great deal of value to be found in university. But you have to look for it. You have to dig for it. And you can't expect it to be delivered to you on a silver platter. The onus is on the student and always has been. Question and be critical of the institution around you. No one is out to get you but also remember that no one is going to worry about your future if you don't. It simply is not good enough to just be here, and do what you are told (or what your friends are doing) and assume that is going to contribute to some vaguely conceived form of success in life. Unless you know why you are here, and what you want, the odds of it accidentally falling in your lap are pretty slim.

*the 2003 Awards of*

EXCELLENCE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

UTAA

*The University of Toronto Alumni Association invites nominations for:*

FACULTY AWARD
A $1,000 prize recognizing excellence in teaching, research and professional endeavours.

CHANCELLOR'S AWARD
A $1,000 prize for outstanding contributions by an administrative staff member.

JOAN E. FOLEY QUALITY OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE AWARD
A $1,000 award to a student, alumnus/a, administrative staff or faculty member who has made a significant contribution to improving the quality of academic or extra-curricular student life on campus.

LUDWIK AND ESTELLE JUS MEMORIAL HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE
A $1,500 prize recognizing positive and lasting contributions to education and action in the fight against discrimination. Faculty, staff and students may be nominated for this award.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2002, 5 P.M.

For further information or nomination forms, please contact your college registrar or the

Division of University Advancement, J. Robert S. Prichard Alumni House,
21 King's College Circle, 3rd Floor
Tel: (416) 978-6536 or e-mail
linda.wells@utoronto.ca

# The News In Brief...

## Bomb Threat at UTSC

This past Tuesday, the students of UTSC were evacuated from the school in reaction to a bomb threat that had been received the previous week. While students were not told about the threat, it was treated with all due caution by the administration. The threat was examined by several experts in bomb threatery, and was deemed to be a hoax.

The administration hoped to avoid causing a panic among students, and the evacuation was done as a precaution against rumours that had been going around campus. In an effort to avoid causing a panic amongst students, the fire alarm was sounded and students were asked to leave the building. Police were on hand in the event that the crowd got out of hand. Principal Paul Thompson assured students in an e-mail that all procedures had been followed, and added that in his 14 years at UTSC he could only remember one other bomb threat.

Bomb threats are quite a common occurrence in larger corporations and TTC buildings and experts are available to deal with these matters. Principal Thompson assured the students that these experts were contacted and the university's policy for dealing with bomb threats was followed. He also said that in the event another threat was received, and deemed to be legitimate further action would be taken. As it was, students were given a half hour break from classes to ensure that no one was hurt in the event some sort of panic broke out. The university is examining its procedures; they will be up for review in the near future. Students can read President Thompson's e-mail, which was sent to all students and administration, by accessing their UTSC e-mail accounts.

## Market Week. Yay.

The SCSU's market week finally ended last Friday. The SCSU rented spaces in the meeting place to corporations so they could hawk their wares. It began with Perrier making sure that UTSC students know that them there bottles is now made of plastics, not glass. It carried on to include companies selling student vacations, credit cards, and cellular phones. All this dumped upon a susceptible crowd of university-aged consumer-whores, who greedily applied for credit cards to get the free Christmas ornament gifts. The corporations no doubt made more than enough money to pay for the Meeting Place space they rented. Thank you SCSU for selling student consciousness and awareness to these fine companies.

## I like Peas and Carrots.

Last Friday night, at the AMSS's *Glow* party, after several trips to the "licensed area," it was decided tat SCSU representative Jon Agg was the sexiest man in Scarborough.

**"The News In Brief..." is compiled by The Underground's new News Editors, Gordon Lane and Dan Sharpe.**


**Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS)**

**Assembly of Class Representatives meeting**
and
**End-of-Term Party**

**Tuesday December 3**

Childcare subsidies are available to APUS Class Reps in order to attend.

**Please RSVP: (416) 978-7594**

Hart House East Common Room
St George campus, 7 Hart House Circle

4:30pm-5:30pm – Coffee/Tea Service
(new Class Reps are encouraged to come early to ask questions and meet APUS executives and staff)

5:30pm-6:45pm – Assembly meeting

Followed by the party:

6:45pm-9:00pm

Finger food and refreshments, including beer and wine,
will be served compliments of APUS!
All part-time undergraduates from all three U of T campuses are welcome.

STEVE MOORE, TEAM MEMBER, RACING IN THE C.A.R.T. SERIES.

arts

# Afro-Caribbean Beats in the Meeting Place

## *The Ballet Creole performs at UTSC*

Chris McKinnon
Editor in Chief

Last Wednesday night the Meeting Place was filled with sound and life. More than 300 students, staff, faculty and members of the surrounding community took seats in the atrium for a performance by the Toronto-based Afro-Caribbean percussion and dance ensemble *Ballet Creole*. Due to an overwhelming demand, the Pay-What-You-Can tickets were available by reservation only, through the Cultural Affairs Office.

The evening was a presentation from the Cultural Affairs Music Committee's *Music of All Latitudes Series*, and in keeping with the showcase's focus it was a lively night highlighting music with a world theme. The *Ballet Creole* has been active on the Canadian dance scene since the early 1990s, presenting a unique fusion of African and Caribbean traditional and contemporary percussion, choreography and costume. Last Wednesday's programme included percussion and dance pieces with origins and inspiration from Nigeria, Haiti, Ghana and many other regions of Africa and the Caribbean. The dance often reflected deeply spiritual origins, as was demonstrated by the fervent and ecstatic shaking of the dancers' bodies. The drumming itself lent a special power to the dance, as the dancers and drummers worked in unison to bring the stage to life.

The crowd watched with awe, and only faltered slightly when the performers tried to encourage audience participation. The seasoned stage-veterans, however, never missed a beat.

Cultural Affairs' Leah Takata declared: "The evening was an absolute success!" And indeed it was. In my opinion, this event could only have been better had it taken place in a venue with better acoustics. The pounding drums were hampered by the Meeting Place's loft and concrete structure. Nonetheless, the crowd gave a round of enthusiastic applause to *Ballet Creole*, and the performers promised to return again soon. Professor Lora Carney had some hopeful words for the audience during her introduction, saying that by this time next year events such as this would be held in the ARC's brand new, state-of-the-art, 500-seat, lecture/concert hall. Whenever the new auditorium is ready, the *Ballet Creole*'s return engagement will be an event you definitely won't want to miss.

# John Mayer gushes for fans at Kool Haus

## *"Canada! I want you sooooo bad!"*

by Matt Capper

If I were to ask you six months ago who John Mayer was, chances are you would not have had the slightest idea. It wasn't until his recent hit "No Such Thing" that John Mayer was brought into the spotlight of the Canadian music industry. The song has been played on almost every popular music radio station and music television channel, he was nominated for best newcomer at last years MTV music awards, and on Tuesday he took the stage Toronto's *Kool Haus*. It was a sold out all-ages show and one of the only Canadian stops in Mayer's tour.

The Connecticut local took the stage to the roar of the select few Canadian and American fans that were fortunate enough to acquire tickets to the show. He amazed the crowd with his guitar skills, his great sense of humor and his vocal abilities. Making sure to interact with the crowd Mayer told a few short stories and jokes and was amazed when a woman's bra, "suddenly appeared" on the stage. Mayer played songs from his new CD, Room for Squares, and his debut release, Inside Wants Out, being sure to include various tidbits of songs such as Cindy Lauper's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun".

All in all, John Mayer and his opening act, Andy Stachansky, put on a great show and no doubt both are welcome back in Toronto anytime. In the words of John Mayer, "Canada is like one of those people who you meet and you just know you want to be friends with them. It's like, "man they're so cool!!! I want to be their friend". And Canada that's what I want. Just on a, you know? larger scale. Canada, I want you soooooo bad!!!"

# Bond keeps things interesting

Keith Friedlander
Arts Editor

**Die Another Day**
Directed by: Lee Tamahori
Starring: Pierce Brosnan, Halle Berry, Judi Dench, John Cleese, Rosamund Pike
Rating: ★ ★ ★

When reviewing a James Bond movie there is an odd standard to consider. All Bond movies follow a practiced formula of explosions, beautiful women, interesting villains, sweet cars, double-crosses, smooth puns and sexual innuendos. If you're a fan of all these things you generally enjoy a well-executed Bond movie. After 40 years and 20 movies however it's understandable that a lot of people are getting tired of the 007 series' predictable nature. Thankfully, *Die Another Day* not only does a good job pleasing fans of the series with all the requisite components listed above, but is also fresh enough to keep the more discerning action fans pleased.

*Die Another Day* begins in a seemingly traditional manner: deep in a hostile territory we join 007 on assignment as he makes a spectacularly unconventional (yet still somehow covert) entrance. This time Bond is breaking up an illegal diamond/arms deal in the demilitarized zone of North Korea (which fills the convenient role of 'evil country' in this installment). However, something goes wrong, Bond is betrayed and captured after an exciting chase scene. Throughout the usual psychedelic opening credits sequence that follows, we see Bond subjected to 14 months of torture during his incarceration. Bond is eventually freed but finds himself stripped of his agent status and detained by MI6. When he escapes, Bond's mission is no longer for Queen and country, it's for revenge upon his mysterious double-crosser.

Bond's dark and vulnerable character creates a refreshing scenario for the first half of the movie as he moves about on his own without the benefit of fancy equipment, following his own investigation. Still, he maintains his cool head and unflagging swagger throughout. Brosnan maintains his usual capable performance of the cocky hero, keeping the traditional persona throughout the changes.

The dark motif doesn't endure however and as the plot becomes more revealed we see a return to traditional Bond antics of globe trotting and villain thwarting. This is, of course, inevitable, as it is required to keep Bond supplied with the fast cars, tuxedos and gadgets that are a necessary staple in his movies. Still, the starting twist gives a good early push to build interest.

The film is then carried by the strength of its new characters. The newest Bond girl Jinx (Halle Berry) is a spirited, capable agent operating independently of Bond and meant to give him a run for his money. Already set to get her own spinoff movie, Jinx's character provides a spicy, American action heroine that would have been more effective if I could stand the actress portraying her. Still, the character provides a nice contrast to the opposing Bond girl Miranda Frost (Rosamund Pike), a cold and serious MI6 agent/sword fighter who's assigned to work with Bond. Both characters prove to be more interesting then most recent Bond girls and present a nice opposition.

The villains also proved more interesting this time around. The horribly disfigured henchman Zao (Rick Yune) is an intimidating and competent villain that actually proves to be one of Bond's more resilient foes. The flamboyant and obviously unbalanced Gustav Graves (Toby Stephens) provides Bond with a challenge of his own fashion: an adventurous and daring Brit who refuses to back down. They might not prove to be classic or memorable, but for their part they provide interesting foils throughout the movie.

The rest of the movie is only highlighted by the regular conventions that usually determine the success of a Bond movie. The action is solid, with an excellent battle between heavily armed cars that seems like a scene taken straight out of a *Twisted Metal* game. Aside from a few weak one-liners the movie maintains that classic Bond style and wit that keeps things amusing. In the end *Die Another Day* stands out just enough to be memorable as a Bond movie and serves as an above average action flick for fans of the genre.

# One More Heartbroken 'Apes' Fan

Sachin Hingoo
Associate Editor

**Bowling For Columbine**
Written, Directed and Starring Michael Moore
Also starring: Charleton Heston, Dick Clark, George "Dubya" Bush, and the lovely town of Sarnia, Ontario
Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★

Ever since I saw it for the first time in grade 11, the original *Planet of the Apes* has been my favorite film. I always liked the fact that it had this B-movie sensibility while still commenting on issues like racial prejudice and nuclear disarmament. Not to mention the fact that it's a movie about a society of apes trying to keep down Moses himself: Charleton Heston. I've thought this for years.

That is, until I saw Michael Moore's *Bowling for Columbine*.

Moore's film has garnered attention and accolades world-wide since its showing at Cannes this year, as well as for being the first documentary to compete in that festival's main competition. The film is a scathing look at the practices and attitudes of (mostly) Americans towards the issue of guns and gun control. Some might remember Michael Moore as the director of two Rage Against the Machine videos; "Sleep Now in the Fire", which featured Moore and the members of Rage attempting to storm the New York Stock Exchange, as well as "Testify", which was a commentary on the lack of real choice in the Bush/Gore election. Moore also created and hosted a (now cancelled - surprise) show called "The Awful Truth", which was basically Moore using any and all means necessary (often with humorous results) to blow the whistle on corporate criminals. The portly, always scruffy Moore always conveys the image of the working-class layman, but behind that exterior is a fierce social and political critic who utilizes his own unassuming appearance to catch his adversaries off-guard.

This film calls into question everything you've heard from Dubya or any other American official in history. You'll never think about 9/11 or the "War on Terror" in the same way again after hearing the facts that Moore presents. Which brings me back to Mr. Heston. Insofar as this movie has a main antagonist (there are many – no one person is responsible for the ign'ance of the United States), it is Charleton Heston. He's Moses, he's Captain Taylor, he's the leader of the NRA: a group that held a rally in Columbine shortly after the school shooting and pleaded with its citizens to oppose gun control; a similar rally was held after an incident in Littleton, Colorado which saw a 6 year old boy shoot another child in class, setting a dubious record for the youngest school shooting in history. What will probably shock you most is the interview that Moore has with Heston towards the end of the film, in which Moses proclaims that the reason that there are so very many gun deaths in the United States is because of the many different ethnicities in the country. Which is about the time I'm imagining the pile of burning "Planet of the Apes" cassettes and comics in my backyard. On the flip side, Moore succeeds where many have failed – he makes Marilyn Manson sound like the most rational person in the whole country. Manson's ideas provide the backbone, almost a thesis for the rest of the film. His ideas almost make too much sense. Like him or not, Manson's onto something in his explanation of American insensitivity.

As I realize that the echo of Heston's words, "from my cold, dead hands" will reverberate in my brain for weeks and months to come, I'm somewhat taken aback. There are some scenes in this film that are truly horrifying, and not because of gratuitous gore or heart-stopping sound effects and no, there's not a single hockey mask to be found. Moore's film will terrify you because it is real, despite what your better judgment says about the logic behind handing out guns in a bank. Forget *The Ring*, *Bowling For Columbine* gets my vote for the scariest movie of the year. Which is not to say that there's not some hilarious moments in this film. You'll laugh out loud at Moore's *South Park*-esque version of US History for days.

I implore you, whatever your political beliefs - even if you have none - see this film. It's the voice of dissent that you never get to hear on CNN, or anywhere outside of an IDS lecture for that matter. And in an American society where Bill Maher can be taken off the air for not jumping on the "let's demonize Afghanistan" bandwagon right after 9/11, I don't think you'll get to hear it for very long. Damn dirty apes indeed.

# Positive space campaign is back

## *But UTSC is still hostile to queers*

Chris McKinnon
Editor in Chief

Last year UTSC kicked off the Positive Space Campaign. Staff, students, faculty and community members were invited to join the campaign to make UTSC free of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or identity. In the year that has passed since the campaign's introduction, the Positive Space emblem, a rainbow triangle, has been posted on the doors of many rooms and offices at UTSC, but until just a few weeks ago, the campaign seemed to have been limbo. Early this month, the committee was reinstated when Professor Ron Smyth was appointed as the new chairperson of the Positive Space Committee.

The stagnancy of the initiative had proved to be very frustrating for many queer-identified students at UTSC. "I doubt students know what 'Positive Space' is." said Brian, one of the chief organizers for LGBTQ@SC (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer at Scarborough Campus) students' group. "I see no difference in [the community's level of awareness.] There wasn't any open discussion of LGBTQ issues last year, by any faculty or students, nor [has there been] any this year." Most LGBTQ students are hopeful that with Smyth's appointment, and a renewed commitment from UTSC's administration, the Positive Space Campaign may actually make progress this year.

UTSC's Positive Space steering-committee had been floundering since the abrupt departure of its chair-person this past summer. Without a chair, the committee could not meet, make recommendations, or accomplish anything in an official capacity. Principal Paul Thompson made the announcement of Smyth's appointment on November 4. In an e-mail to the College, Thompson explained that Smyth, an Associate Professor of linguistics and psychology, will act as the committee's chair and as the principal's "advisor on creating a positive space (a positive environment for all faculty, staff and students regardless of sexual orientation)". The e-mail also appears to give Professor Smyth carte-blanche to institute new policies at this college. Specifically, the e-mail states that Smyth should "engage in any programming that he deems useful." Such a whole-hearted endorsement of the committee's mandate might prove to be just what UTSC needs in order to get on track with respect to "creating a more inclusive community."

In the meantime, the LGBTQ@SC student group has continued to meet with problems on campus. Their posters and flyers are frequently ripped or defaced with hate graffiti. The group continues to meet on a weekly basis, but the meetings are closed to the general public. Many group-members remain "closeted". Others fear that openly posting the times and locations of their meetings would invite trouble from "homophobes", ranging from verbal harassment to physical assaults. This fear seems legitimate given the prevalence of racist, homophobic and hetero-centric graffiti found all over UTSC. There is a latent sense of hostility in the hallways of this school. "I get stickers ripped off my locker and our posters get ripped down as soon as they go up... I hear 'faggot' in the hallways all the time." says a student, who wished to remain anonymous.

The rainbow-triangle stickers and posters all over UTSC might be misleading at first glance. Some offices on campus bear the insignia of Positive Space without much awareness of the issues surrounding LGBTQ. Prominent offices such as the Women's Centre bear the Positive Space logo, with little attention to what the campaign is actually about. Associate Principal of Student Affairs, Tom Nowers, has been working to ensure that all departments and staff that fall under the auspices of Student Affairs (i.e. Health and Wellness; Advising, Career and Student Success; Physical Education and Athletics; etc.) receive sensitivity and awareness training. "It is an educative process," Nowers said, "Until society-at-large changes; the laws of the land governing marriage, same-sex rights and common-law relationships change, we will always be educating those who enter our universities every year from an environment largely and genuinely ignorant of the LGBTQ realities." Even so, the queer community at UTSC continues to suffer without a centralized office for LGBTQ resources and programs while such an office does exist on the St. George campus. While many of the services offered downtown are available at UTSC, the resources here are diffusely located and difficult to access unless one knows where to look. This is particularly troubling to LGBTQ@SC organizers. Queer students can receive direction to helpful resources through the office of Student Affairs or the SCSU. These offices can be valuable sources of information, but for those who are not openly "out", it may be difficult or uncomfortable to speak about their problems and needs in such places, especially when there are no queer-identified staff members. "I think the SCSU is definitely more approachable this year. Last year, I would never have gone to the SCSU for queer stuff... Mainly because the previous councils were clearly and unapologetically homophobic," said one woman, about her experiences with the student union. The consensus among LGBTQ students is that the SCSU has been making progress. The union is currently trying to make a space in the new Student Centre for an LGBTQ resources office.

Until then, SCSU and Student Affairs have awarded the LGBTQ@SC group "official club-status". As such, the SCSU is now able to provide some limited funding for the group's projects. At this time, funding is being arranged for a glass-enclosed bulletin board where the group's flyers and information can be posted without fear of defacement or tampering. This project is expected to cost nearly $2000, part of which will be funded through the SCSU, the remainder provided by LGBTQ groups from the St. George campus. It is hoped that the encased bulletin board will offer a compromise between LGBTQ@SC's request for special permission to post their materials in normally off-limits locations, and the SCSU's desire to treat all student clubs and groups equally. Not everyone is satisfied with the designated LGBTQ bulletin board. Some students have been concerned that the bulletin board is only a quick-fix, and that more significant changes are needed to address LGBTQ equity issues at UTSC. The fact that a bulletin board designated for LGBTQ materials needs to be encased in glass in order to prevent defacement or vandalism of posters speaks to the continuing hostility directed at queer students on campus. Other "positive space" signs have been encased in plastic and drilled into the concrete walls, next to the H-Wing cafeteria for example.

Equity issues at UTSC continue to simmer, thus far without any semblance of resolution. Graffiti and harassment continues at a rate unchanged since Positive Space came to UTSC. Growing frustration is obvious among LGBTQ students as they wait for the changes the new Positive Space Committee will initiate. Nevertheless, attitudes are hopeful: The LGBTQ@SC and individual queer students continue to make LGBTQ issues increasingly visible on campus. Clearly, the campaign to create a campus free from discrimination on the basis of sexual identity is far from over.

***"When the posters have to be encased in plexiglass and drilled into the concrete walls so that they aren't torn down, it's hardly Positive Space..."***

# What UTSC Community?

Christian Lucier
Life Editor

This past semester, the Underground has received numerous letters, rants, and articles concerning the UTSC community. Students such as Carrie Schultz felt the need to address the pointless and boring events SCSU puts on, while others such as The Lord of Darkness focused on the conflicts ethnical diversity has on campus. In all of these pieces a conflict was presented, and in all of these pieces a finger was pointed at the UTSC Community. Having thought about this for quite some time, it dawned upon me why the UTSC Community is facing so many dilemmas. We, the student body, do not have a community. We just think we do and criticize it. This may seem like some kind of radical epiphany, but it has merit, trust me...

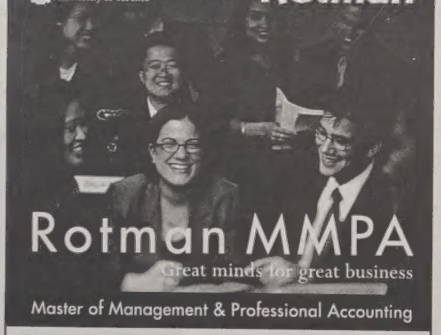
There are two definitions of community that I want you, the readers, to think of when I use the term: I) a group of people having common interests, and II) a group of people living in the same locality and under the same government. Neither of these definitions fully applies to UTSC. To begin, UTSC is not a whole. Ever take a walk through the Meeting Place? This area is a sea of clubs isolating themselves in their secluded sections of tables. I seriously think there is a club for each student at this campus. At UTSC we have an Afghan Student Body, a Muslim's Student Association, a Greek Students Associations, a Hindu Student Council, a Pakistani Student Association, a Catholic League, and let's not forget the infamous United Punk Association. These are not just clubs, groups, and associations. These organizations are beliefs, interests, and most importantly, ways of life. In fact, each of these cliques is a community on its own. The problem with all of these groups is that they make it impossible for UTSC to have a unified community. What they are doing is promoting our differences. I am not Muslim, Pakistani, Hindu, or a firm believer in the punk way of life. Simply put, I am a UTSC student. However, attending this campus takes even this away from me. UTSC deems me a minority in a land of minorities. Don't get me wrong though. I am not saying that we should abolish all the clubs and become some kind of Aryan Student Body. What I am saying is that a sense of community has never been a possibility for UTSC and furthermore, never will be if things continue as they are.

Going back to Carrie Schultz's point about how UTSC never has any good events. This too plays a role in why UTSC does not have a community. In order to have a community you have to have a sense of belonging, and in order to do this you have to establish what it means to be a student at UTSC. There are no events at this campus that stress the previous point. Whenever we do have an event it is for some other reason besides getting to know each other and just having a good time. Case in point, the *Glow: [sub] Urban Night Lights* dance that took place last Friday. This dance was a part of the Expressions Against Oppression Week. Shannon Flemming and Karen Lackner state that this event is a chance to: "See some of the diverse arts and culture at UTSC." Good God! Every day I see diverse art and culture at this campus and never get a chance to take it in. UTSC force-feeds its students diversity for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. How in the world are we supposed to achieve a sense of community if all we ever focus on is our diversity?

UTSC may never have a community simply because we are UTSC, a lonely satellite rotating miles from home, University of Toronto – St. George Campus. Face it. We are a chapter of the University of Toronto saga, while the St. George campus is the book. It is difficult to create a sense of community when the real community is located downtown. I am certain that Mississauga feels the same way.

This may all sound a bit too harsh, but shit, am I lying? Nope. However, there is hope. There will always be hope. Maybe the powers that be will hear this plea for help, a plea for a sense of belonging and unity, a plea for a UTSC community. Hopefully events will be arranged to promote a UTSC community, as opposed to something less needy. The Attic should be cleaned out and brought back to life. Steady pub nights would certainly be welcomed, where friendly faces can be seen and new ones welcomed. Let's try to transform UTSC from a commuters' school, a place people leave to return home, to a home away from home. If we don't try to make any changes, UTSC will never break away from its image, that of an over-glamorized high school.

New Year's & Spring Break
PARTY TRIPS!
20,000 students partied with us last year!
Montreal from $229
Quebec City from $229
Daytona Beach from $199
Panama City Beach from $299
Acapulco from $1249
To book a Breakway Tours package, contact:
STRAVEL CUTS
www.travelcuts.com
Tour operated by Breakaway Tours Ont. Reg. #'s 2267878 & 2422707. Prices will vary depending on departure point. Above prices based on max. occupancy. Call for hotel options, taxes and transportation info. Complete terms and conditions available at time of booking.

Joseph L. Rotman School of Management
University of Toronto
Rotman

Rotman MMPA
Great minds for great business
Master of Management & Professional Accounting
- Designed primarily for non-business undergraduates
- For careers in Management, Finance and Accounting
- Extremely high co-op and permanent placement

To learn more about the Rotman MMPA Program, attend our information session:

Thursday, November 28, 2002
11:30am - 1:30 pm
Room S403, Council Chambers
University of Toronto at Scarborough

Please consult our website: www.rotman.utoronto.ca/mmpa

# <INSERT TRENDY ONLINE REFERENCE HERE>

Sachin "I should be writing for SHIFT" Hingoo
Associate Editor

In my opinion, this publication has covered the video game topic from just about every possible angle. However, because I am not, and don't pretend to be, a "real journalist" and am devoid of any original thought of my own, I figured I'd do my part to help to fill in what's been left out.

In the past couple of years, we have slowly but surely begun to bear witness to an entirely new genre of video game. While games in general have stuck to the basic RPG, Action/Adventure, Sports, or Puzzle conventions in the past, the emergence of what I like to call 'lifestyle simulations' (because I'm pretentious) has definitely taken off recently, with amazing response from gamers and non-gamers alike.

As far as I can tell (or guess, since I can't be fucked to do research), the first of these games was Maxis' 1999 hit, *The Sims*. Combining elements from various strategy games and the company's previous success, *Sim City*, *The Sims* allowed a player to create and manage one or more 'families' of simulated people who had well-defined needs and wants which had to be met. Not unlike a Tamigotchi, *The Sims* fostered a sort of parental protectiveness in the user for his or her electronic creations, which could be customized in almost every conceivable way. This drastically altered the role of the player-as-avatar relationship in gaming. You can't help but feel just a little sadder when one of your Sims dies than, say, when Billy or Jimmy got killed in *Double Dragon*. It's not a simulated "you" that's dying after all, it's your baby, ripped out of your electronic hands like a dingo was after it. Even if your *Sims* avatar is indeed meant to be a representation of you, it's still your creation from (mostly) scratch, in your own image no less, and its loss is still somewhat heart-wrenching because it's a much more of an accurate depiction than those faceless automatons from *Contra* ever were.

Of course, with the advent of yet another new generation of games and game systems, "lifestyle simulations" have gone to, pardon the phrase, the next level. The popular *Animal Crossing* for Gamecube is similar to *The Sims* in that you create and manage a character's life, with the added element of real time. Relying on the Gamecube's date and time functions, events in *Animal Crossing* occur even when you don't play. This means that if there's an event going on at 5:00 pm on Monday, you'd better be playing during that time to participate. The game even has specialized events on specific holidays. If you played on Halloween, for example, you'd be met by trick-or-treaters and on Christmas, presents. While this may seem cool in theory, I'm struck by how much control over a player's "real" life this feature hands over to the game. You're being told when to play. Think about that for just one second, and imagine the essays you'll never get done, the kids you'll neglect, and most importantly, the alcohol that will remain unconsumed.

> *There are at least two kinds of games. One could be called finite, the other infinite. A finite game is played for the purpose of winning, an infinite game for the purpose of continuing the play.*
>
> **- James P. Carse, Finite and Infinite Games**

The face of gaming is changing, folks. Once the lifestyle simulation goes online, and indeed it will, what with several online games coming out for Playstation 2 and XBOX, as well as *The Sims Online* for the PC, most of the pieces will be in place for entire community-based simulations. And I'm not just talking about your mom's multiplayer Half-Life, either. Game-makers are already full-on into this phenomenon, like Vancouver-based software company Ludicorp. This company is working on *Game Neverending*, a "web-based massively multiplayer online game of social, political and economic interactions." In addition, there are plans to create games which utilize real currency to purchase simulated items in the virtual world, and also ones which simulate the growth process of a real person. If instant messaging is to destroy our language, as Rob Chung would have us believe, then what can we say about the effects of these massive multiplayer simulations?

Blue pill, anyone?

# The Necessity of Excess:

## Why All University Students Need to Get Stupidly Drunk

Rob Chung

I woke up the other day and realised something very frightening: next week is the last week of the semester, and we all know what that means. The fifteen thousand assignments that we put off for 3 months are now finally due, and better yet at the same time. Now, in my particular case, I haven't started any of them. For most of them, I really don't have a clue as to what I want to write about, or present on, or whatever the format is. And the scariest part of it all is that I really don't care anymore. I'm tired. Working 3 jobs is enough for me, thank you very much. When I registered for university life, I wasn't signing on for a program of intense, never-ending exhaustion. I used to be able to pull off all-nighters and get the assignments done the night before, or the morning of. Now it seems like all the energy I have is being drained into this monitor that I'm staring at as I'm typing this article.

For now I guess that most of us are in the same boat; it's only a very few really odd people who organize their time so wisely that every minute of every day is spent doing some sort of constructive work instead of staring off into space as I find myself doing more and more often. And for all of us "procrastinators" or as I like to call myself, a "university student", our panacea has always been the mighty bottle: the big A, the keg, the 40 - whichever one we call our own, it is what gives us the ability to say things like, "Yeah, I'll just finish it when I get home after the bar", or "It doesn't matter. Its only worth 40%." Yes, in times of great need, nothing comes rushing to the rescue like the almighty depressant called alcohol. And although there is a fine line to be drawn between those of us that need alcohol to survive the stresses of university life and those who are just ridiculous alcoholics, I believe that without alcohol, we would indeed lose ourselves in the chaotic and dizzying world of academia forever.

Sometimes, no, most of the time when I'm sitting in front of this computer screen waiting for the essay to write itself, I think, "Geez, if only all of this didn't matter, and I could just do it, or not do it, or better yet, just forget that it existed." I take a beer and chug it down, followed by another and another. Soon enough there isn't anything to bother me; essays are now just groups of words that form groups of sentences that form somewhat coherent paragraphs. In my psychedelic, hazy-vision state, where I reach the ultimate heightened awareness of the beer-buzz, I realise the true meaning of exams: that professors are evil, torture-loving beings, and that we cannot blame them for their shortcomings. The world becomes perfect for those few hours when all that I think or feel is the urge to keep drinking whatever it is in my hand. Wouldn't the world be so much better if we could just be permanently drunk?

But alas, it cannot be so, for our lives at university will soon end. And whether or not we succeed is up to us entirely. But success cannot be measured only by grades, but by the level of life we still retain when we are done these tedious 3 or 4 or (for those completely insane) more years. What use will it be when we finally have the piece of paper in our hands that says we spent a gruelling 4 years at University, but are so tired, so sick of living, that we cease to enjoy the sheer excitement of our youth? Yeah, I want to graduate and do well, but I also know that I cannot do it alone. Once in a while, I need my good friend Alcohol to come and tell me that everything is going to be fine, and that life cannot possibly get any worse.

## Classifieds

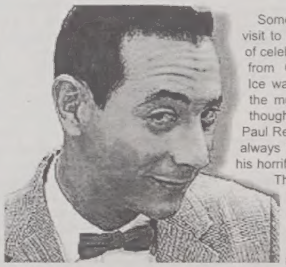
Montreal@ NEW YEAR's Dec. 30 - Jan 1 / 2003
2 nights accomodations
Holiday Inn or Best Western
From $189/QUAD includes Bus
Book 3 friends go half price or
Book 7 GO FREE!
Thames Travel 1-800-962-8262
Party Package available!

"Documentary TV series, Family Secrets, is seeking students (male or female) currently working as exotic dancers. For more info call (416)516-1833 or email: familysecrets@makinmovies.tv"

# Sorry Pee-wee, sex ain't for kids...

*Satan's Bakesale*

Andrew C. Epstein, "The Lord of Darkness"



Something struck me today during a visit to a website that had a catalogue of celebrity police mug shots. Everyone from O.J. to John Gotti to Vanilla Ice was in there. But then I came to the mug shot of a man who I hadn't thought on in a while. His name is Paul Reubens but to many of us he will always be Pee-Wee (and definitely not his horrific character from *Mystery Men*). The fact that Pee-Wee got caught wanking himself in a porno theatre is old news. But now it appears that only recently, Pee-Wee has got himself into more trouble. Mr. Reubens has just recently been charged with possession of child pornography.

So this got me thinking about children's performers in general. Pee-Wee likes kiddie porn. Notorious child killer John Wayne Gacy's day job was as a birthday party clown named Pogo. Then, of course, there's Barney... What I realized is that, in general, parents place a tremendous amount of trust in virtual strangers by allowing them to take care of their children. But it seems that a lot of people can't see that using their positions as entertainers to violate children is a bad idea. So what's the problem? Do all these people have a secret desire to join the Catholic Priesthood?

To be honest I don't think you can always understand why some things are turn-ons for one person, but not for another. Not only that, the line between acceptable and unacceptable turn-ons keeps getting blurrier and blurrier. In terms of pornography, videos of people pissing in each other's faces and shitting in each other's mouths are perfectly legal to make, sell and watch. But at least that is a situation where everyone invovled knows what they're getting into.

I remember hearing someone on television trying to explain how relations between a child and an older person make sense. But probably like most of the people that were watching whatever it was, it didn't reach me. The other one I thought was rather amusing was the claim of a man who had molested a toddler. He claimed that the child had acted suggestively toward him. He claimed that she seduced him. The kid probably didn't know the meaning of the word.

Thing is, I think fetishes are really cool. Things like S&M and B&D can be both beautiful and erotic. And I tolerate people who get off on golden showers because it's a choice (albeit a pretty dumb one) that can be made by everybody involved. However, I don't think I could ever accept the idea of sexually presenting someone who doesn't even have a real idea about what they're doing means.

Somebody recently suggested to me that if Pee-Wee was only looking at pictures of children by themselves, then it was ok because the children weren't being violated. But does the kid have any idea what's going on? Some people claim that most children these days have a decent idea about sex. But I find it hard to believe that anyone who hasn't hit puberty has any idea bout sex.

All that said, if someone came up to me and told me they thought about children in a sexual way, I couldn't condemn them, because you can't condemn someone for having a thought. It doesn't mean you're sick or perverted if you have a thought. The idea of offing your boss at work isn't a nice idea either but I'm sure many of you have had that one. Pee-Wee isn't necessarily a sick guy, but he crossed that line between fantasy and reality that is "supposed" to stop everything from turning into chaos. What goes on in his head is his own business, but only his, and should not be cast onto anyone else.

So for all those who have been curious about breaking out the whip, leather, and chains (although I suggest avoiding *certain* bodily excretions, but if that's your bag then don't let me stop you) go ahead and pursue your fantasy. For all of you like our friend Pee-Wee, may I suggest midgets?

*the 2003 Awards of*

EXCELLENCE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

*Applications are now being accepted for the* NORTHROP FRYE AWARDS

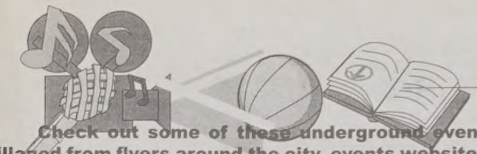
The University of Toronto Alumni Association is pleased once again to join the provost in sponsoring the Northrop Frye Awards.

One individual prize ($2,000) will be awarded to a faculty member who demonstrates innovative and exemplary ways of linking teaching and research.

One divisional prize ($6,000) will be awarded to a faculty, college, school or department for extraordinary curriculum innovation aimed at strengthening the link between teaching and research.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2002, 5 P.M.

For further information or nomination forms, please contact your college registrar or the Division of University Advancement, J. Robert S. Prichard Alumni House, 21 King's College Circle, 3rd Floor. Tel: (416) 978-6536 or e-mail linda.wells@utoronto.ca



# events

**Check out some of these underground events... The following is a listing of events information pillaged from flyers around the city, events websites and other low-key or hard-to-find places. If you know of an event that might benefit from a little bit of buzz (i.e. Ticketmaster is not involved) let us know by sending an email with "EVENTS" in the subject line to: *undergnd@utsc.utoronto.ca***

***The Underground* and its staff do not guarantee any information printed in this listing. Do to the often sketchy nature of such events, the details are liable to change, or be outright false. Make use of any contact information provided beforehand.... and otherwise, have fun!**

**Nov. 27** Victoria Women's Association presents **"The New Program for First Year Students"** Speaker: Dr. David Cook, Principal, Victoria College. Alumni Hall, 2:00 p.m.

**Nov. 27 to Dec. 1 REEL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL.** See website for more details. http://www.reelasian.com/

**Nov. 27 Re:Cite(All)1**
Leigha Lee Browne Theatre, 7 pm

**Nov. 27 UTSC Band Holiday Concert**
Meeting Place, 12 noon: FREE

**Nov. 27 Holding Corporations to Account.** A free forum at the St. Lawrence Centre. 27 Front E. 7:30-9:30pm. 416-366-1656 http://forum.stlc.com

**Nov. 28 Re:Cite(All)1**
Leigha Lee Browne Theatre, 7 pm

**Nov. 29 Re:Cite(All)1**
Leigha Lee Browne Theatre, 7 pm

**Nov. 29 Reverend Lois Wilson lectures, "Human Rights, Peace and a Lifetime of Advocacy."** 7:30 pm. Earth Sciences Auditorium (5 Bancroft, near Huron & Russel) Free. Contact: stdntsfrpeace@yahoo.ca

**Nov. 29 UTSC Choirs Holiday Concert**
Meeting Place, 7 pm: FREE

**Nov. 29 TEMPTRESS. Outrageous NYC Drag Rock Band.** 4pm, Wildside. 161 Gerard E. Free. 416-921-6112.

**Nov. 29 This Bridge We Call Home**, book launch and party. 9pm Steelworker's Hall - 33 Cecil Street Tix: $8-12 (sliding scale).

**Nov. 30 EarthTONES 2002.**
Live Music feat. Faculty of Medicine's finest musicians. Proceeds to children's healthcare initiatives world-wide. $12 - 7pm @ Convocation Hall Info/tickets call 416-978-2684 earthtones2002@hotmail.com

**Nov. 30 End of Term Party** This event will celebrate the affiliation of the Toronto Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies with the Sexual Diversity Studies Program and the launch of several scholarships for Sexual Diversity Studies Students. Come and meet other faculty and students who are associated with the program. 5:00p.m.-8:30p.m. University College Room 240

**Dec. 6. Friday Workshop Series**, feat. Mark Crane, "The Use of bonae literae in Sixteenth-Century France". Northrop Frye Hall. 73 Queen's Park, Room 205. 3:15 p.m.

**Dec. 6 FREE FRIDAY FILMS AT INNIS COLLEGE.** Meet Me in St. Louis. Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave. 7:00p.m.

**Dec. 7. Graduates' Christmas Luncheon with Jane Pepino**, "Reflections from a Froshie at Mid-Life: What I wish I'd known in 1965", tickets: $15, please contact the Alumni Office to register (416-585-4500), 12:00 p.m

**Dec. 9** Public Lecture: **SCREWING THE SYSTEM: MASCULINITIES, MONEY & FETISHISM** by Professor Anne McClintock. Great Hall, Hart House. 7 Hart House Circle, 7:00p.m. Free. Info: (416) 922-8744

**Dec. 13 "Christmas Around The World"** feat. Peter Karrie w/ Richard Birney Smith and Laura Pin
$30 - call 905-627-0757
Ryerson United Church, Hamilton

**Dec. 20 "Christmas Around The World"** feat. Peter Karrie w/ Richard Birney Smith and Laura Pin
$30 - call 905-627-0757
St. James Church, Cambridge

**Dec. 21 "Christmas Around The World"** feat. Peter Karrie w/ Richard Birney Smith and Laura Pin
$30 - call 905-627-0757
Appleton United Church, Burlington


*the 2003 Awards of*

EXCELLENCE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

UTAA

*Applications are now being accepted for the*

JOHN H. MOSS SCHOLARSHIP

A prize of up to $16,650 is awarded to a graduating University of Toronto Arts & Science student who demonstrates outstanding academic achievement and extra-curricular leadership.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2002, 5 P.M.

For further information or nomination forms, please contact your college registrar or the Division of University Advancement, J. Robert S. Prichard Alumni House, 21 King's College Circle, 3rd Floor Tel: (416) 978-6536 or e-mail linda.wells@utoronto.ca

STEAM WHISTLE & The Underground present

# The First-Ever Haiku-vaganza Contest

We at The Underground have been consistently overwhelmed, inundated even, with pleas for more, more, more haiku. We even received some great unsolicited haiku (incidentally, our favourite kind.) This got us thinking... Why not put students' creative drive to a higher purpose? Why not create the First-Ever Haiku-vaganza Contest? Why not, indeed.

The Underground and Steam Whistle Brewing have teamed up to offer real prizes this time! 10 lucky winners will receive free shuttle-service from UTSC to Steam Whistle's brewery at The Roundhouse downtown, a special tour of the Steam Whistle plant and more!

To enter: Send your original haiku, name, telephone number and address to
***haikuvaganza@baldandsexy.com***
If you don't know what haiku is, see below. (A note to plagiarisers: The Underground has a crack team of trained monkeys surfing the web, checking to make sure that all submissions are, in fact, original. Anyone caught pilfering haiku will suffer the wrath of the Editorial Board.)

The Contest opens right now, as you read this ad. The deadline for submissions is December 12, 2002 at 11:59pm. The Underground kindly suggests that individuals not submit more than three (3) poems. Persons or entities that defy us may very well be disqualified, out of pure spite.

10 winners will be selected, from among the qualified entries. The ten finest scribes will be invited to attend a special tour of Steam Whistle Brewing at The Roundhouse. The winning entries will be published in The Underground next January.

What are you waiting for? Go now. Go!

**Send your entries to:**
**haikuvaganza@baldandsexy.com**

**We may not be able to tell you to drink *Steam Whistle*, but they are the *sole sponsors* of this contest, so we will tell you that *we like the way these kats think!***

## Haiku 101:
**A Primer for the Unenlightened**

Haiku is an unrhymed Japanese poetic form consisting of 17 syllables arranged in three lines with five, seven and five syllables respectively. The haiku was originally a poetic device used to introduce a sequence of verse; it was meant to set the tone of a poem and had to contain mention of subjects such as the season, the time of day, and the dominant features of the landscape. (Source: Webster's Encyclopedia of Literature)

Since nothing is sacred nowadays, "haiku" now refers to a poem, on any subject, that adheres to the five, seven, five syllable arrangement. At The Underground, we prefer this bastardised form, and encourage our readers to experiment with diverse subject matter. A word to the wise, check out back issues of the paper for ideas on what kind of haiku we like. And one more tip...

**Anyone can write**
**about raindrops on trees' leaves**
**it's not so profound**